

Role of Transition Network Team (TNT)

The **Transition Network Team** began as a state level partnership to bring representatives from different state agency departments and advocacy organizations together that deal with transition of students with disabilities. The Transition Network Team was also developed to facilitate interagency communication and collaboration to best serve the needs of students

TNT has evolved into other roles:

- Systems change
- Networking/communications
- Network in support of resource development
- Address best practices associated with transition

The leadership team would like TNT to engage in more of a dialogue this year and use input from members. It was the group's decision to hear more about Career Preparation & Technical Education.

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The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and its 1992 amendments (revised in 1998) have language that was coordinated with the IDEA. Its key provisions related to Transition include:

- Defines “transition services” as a coordinated set of activities for a student, designed within an outcome-oriented process, which promotes movement from school to post-school activities, including:
 - postsecondary education
 - vocational training
 - integrated employment (including supported employment)
 - continuing and adult education
 - adult services
 - independent living
 - community participation
- Requires the rehabilitation state plan to include plans, policies, and procedures for cooperating with agencies and schools responsible for students with disabilities receiving special education services to facilitate their transition to employment.
- Requires the development and completion of an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) before the student leaves the school setting for each VR (Vocational Rehabilitation) eligible student.

- Requires a formal interagency agreement between the state educational agency and, when appropriate, local education agencies and the state VR agency.
- Authorizes and in some cases requires establishment of a number of entities, including:

- √ Client Assistance Programs
- √ National Institutes on Disability and Rehabilitation
- √ National Council on Disability
- √ State and Local Independent Living Councils
- √ Architectural Transportation Barriers Compliance Boards